

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DIRECTING CLERK OF THE HOUSE TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3461, APPROVING THE GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND POLAND

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I offer a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 352) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make technical corrections in the enrollment of a bill, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 352

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) That, in the enrollment of the bill, H.R. 3461, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) In section 305, strike subsections (a) and (d).

(2) Amend section 306 to read as follows:

SEC. 306. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS. There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator the following:

(1) To carry out nautical mapping and charting functions under the Act of 1947 and sections 303 and 304, except for conducting hydrographic surveys, \$33,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, \$34,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, and \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2001.

(2) To conduct hydrographic surveys under section 303(a)(1), including the leasing of ships, \$33,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, and \$37,000,000 for fiscal year 2001. Of these amounts, no more than \$16,000,000 is authorized for any one fiscal year to operate hydrographic survey vessels owned and operated by the Administration.

(3) To carry out geodetic functions under the Act of 1947, \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, and \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2001.

(4) To carry out tide and current measurement functions under the Act of 1947, \$22,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2001. Of these amounts \$4,500,000 is authorized for each fiscal year to implement and operate a national quality control system for real-time tide and current and maintain the national tide network, and \$7,000,000 is authorized for each fiscal year to design and install real-time tide and current data measurement systems under section 303(b)(4).

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMEMBERING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON TO THE NATION

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Commit-

tee on Government Reform and Oversight be discharged from further consideration of the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 83) remembering the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation, and I ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 83

Whereas December 14, 1999, will be the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington, the father of our Nation and the protector of our liberties;

Whereas the standards established by George Washington's steadfast character and devotion to duty continue to inspire all men and women in the service of their country and in the conduct of their private lives;

Whereas the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, which maintains the Mount Vernon estate and directs research and education programs relating to George Washington's contribution to our national life, has requested all Americans to participate in the observance of this anniversary;

Whereas bells should be caused to toll at places of worship and institutions of learning for the duration of 1 minute commencing at 12 o'clock noon, central standard time, throughout the Nation, on the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington;

Whereas the flag of the United States should be lowered to half staff on the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington; and

Whereas the example set by George Washington is of the utmost importance to the future of the Nation, and it is the responsibility of private and government institutions to prepare for the observation of the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) calls upon the Nation to remember the life of George Washington and his contributions to the Nation; and

(2) requests and authorizes the President of the United States—

(A) to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States—

(i) to commemorate the death of George Washington with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

(ii) to cause and encourage patriotic and civic associations, veterans and labor organizations, schools, universities, and communities of study and worship, together with citizens everywhere, to develop programs and research projects that concentrate upon the life and character of George Washington as it relates to the future of the Nation and to the development and welfare of the lives of free people everywhere; and

(B) to notify the governments of all Nations with which the United States enjoys relations that our Nation continues to cherish the memory of George Washington with affection and gratitude by furnishing a copy of this resolution to those governments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield half of my time to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) will each control 30 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BLILEY).

(Mr. BLILEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I rise in strong support of this legislation remembering our first President and founding father George Washington.

This legislation will commemorate the 200th anniversary of George Washington's death on December 14, 1999.

George Washington was a peerless military leader in the Revolutionary War, able Chairman of the Constitutional Convention and brilliant first President.

George Washington is truly the father of this great country. Because of George Washington's actions in life, we are free and we are Americans.

"Our cause is noble," Washington said, "It is the cause of mankind!"

Pursuit of liberty and justice under God is still the most inspiring, the most successful, most revolutionary idea the world has ever known.

Mr. Speaker, as Americans, let us rededicate ourselves to the ideals by which George Washington lived his life.

I believe another great Virginian, Thomas Jefferson, may have said it best when describing George Washington: His integrity was the most pure and his justice the most inflexible we have ever known.

He is in every sense of the word a wise and great person.

As the bicentennial of Washington's death approaches, I ask the House to join me in celebrating the life of our founding father George Washington.

Let us dedicate this year long commemoration to learning more about his fascinating life and career.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us is to honor George Washington. Next year will be the 200th year of his death. Many of the Nation's children will not and do not know that he is the first President of the United States.

In a document promoting the celebration of Washington's bicentennial, it states that, quote, 200 years after Washington's death, the importance of his leadership has not dwindled. But our knowledge of and respect for Washington has declined to an incredibly low level. In just four decades, Washington's coverage in history textbooks has been reduced so dramatically that some teachers complain that he has been relegated to "footnote status." Educators admit that the teaching of history is woefully inadequate and that only 2 out of 10 students graduating from high school can be described as proficient in history. Today we have reached an agreement on a budget bill